

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING ARTHUR AND DOROTHY ROGERS

#### HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2011*

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, Arthur and Dorothy Rogers are celebrating fifty years (50) in marriage today in DeKalb County, Georgia; and

Whereas, on August 27, 1961 because of their union then, our community today has been blessed with a family that has enhanced our district, Mr. Arthur Lewis Rogers and Mrs. Dorothy Elizabeth Rogers; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God and this phenomenal and virtuous Proverbs 31 woman are beacons of light to those in need, they both have been blessed with their family, their church and the DeKalb County community; and

Whereas, Mr. and Mrs. Rogers are distinguished citizens of our district, they are spiritual warriors, persons of compassion, fearless leaders and servants to all, but most of all visionaries who have shared not only with their family, but with our District their passion to improve the lives of others; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Mr. Arthur and Mrs. Dorothy Rogers as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary, fifty (50) years in marital bliss;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr. do hereby proclaim August 27, 2011 as Mr. Arthur and Mrs. Dorothy Rogers Day in the 4th Congressional District.

Proclaimed, this 27th day of August, 2011.

### HONORING DEBBE HARTRIDGE AND IRA SAMUEL BLATT

#### HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Debbe Hartridge and Ira Blatt, two extraordinary citizens of Humboldt County, California, who have dedicated their lives to public service. The husband and wife team are being honored by the Humboldt County Democratic Central Committee as 2011 Citizens of the Year for one of our nation's most precious rights—participation in the political system. Their commitment to the general health and welfare of the community and to the preservation of our liberty is worthy of appreciation and recognition.

Mrs. Hartridge is director of information, education and public affairs for Six Rivers Planned Parenthood, where she has worked for the past 20 years. She has served as President of the Humboldt County Integrated

Waste Task Force, as an elected member of the Humboldt County Board of Education, and as President and Chair of the Education Committee for the Six Rivers Planned Parenthood Board of Directors. Mrs. Hartridge's work on reproductive rights has been honored with the Planned Parenthood Federation Affiliate Excellence Award for Education programs in 2000 and by the Association of Planned Parenthood Leaders in Education Award for Courage and Creativity in 2002.

Mr. Blatt is an attorney-at-law who opened a private practice law firm in 1974, serving primarily injured workers and disabled individuals. He received awards from the California Bar Association and the Humboldt County Bar Association for his pro-bono work. Mr. Blatt served 16 years as an elected board member for Arcata Elementary School District, and on the board of Redwood Legal Assistance for 25 years. He was Board President of the National Alliance on Mental Illness for four years beginning in 2000, and remains an active member. He has also served as a member of the Arcata Economic Development Board.

These outstanding individuals have been vital contributors to the Humboldt County community for years. Mrs. Hartridge has four daughters, and the couple share four grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we recognize Debbe Hartridge and Ira Blatt for their unwavering compassion and for their contribution to the ideals and traditions that have made America a nation of hope and achievement.

### SAINT JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

#### HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2011*

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Catholic Church, who will celebrate its 100th anniversary on October 22, 2011. Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Catholic Church has been serving the community of Nanticoke, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, since it was started in October 1911 by 11 families of Carpatho-Rusyn settlers from Poland and Slovakia.

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Catholic Church has been helping form the youth of Hanover and Nanticoke through its extensive youth ministry. The church ensures that children understand the value of assisting not only those in their parish, but also those in their communities, their country and the world. These youth work with the elderly at senior living homes, send school supplies to children across the world who otherwise would not have any, and have been cleaning up their parish to make more space for their activities. Creating an environment where children can learn how to selflessly give to others and celebrate their faith is important, and I applaud the church's efforts.

Providing ministry to the aged is also a priority of Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Catholic Church. Because elderly who live in senior citizen homes cannot always maintain an active spiritual life inside a church, Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Catholic Church brings its ministry to the seniors, enriching their lives and providing community outreach.

Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Catholic Church has a very involved and dedicated parish membership. Since its inception, parishioners have been critical in the advancement of the church.

Mr. Speaker, today, Saint John the Baptist Orthodox Catholic Church stands as a pillar of faith in Nanticoke, Pennsylvania. I commend them for their 100 years of committed service to their faith, their community, and their country.

### RECOGNIZING LABOR DAY AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICAN WORKERS

#### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, September 6, 2011*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, Labor Day is a holiday which recognizes the economic and social achievements of American workers. Today, we celebrate the hard-working men and women who have raised this country to unprecedented levels of productivity and prosperity not seen in any other country around the globe.

While we take a day to celebrate the history of American workers, we must also take a moment to reflect on their present struggles. Millions of Americans who helped to grow our nation to the way it is today are now unemployed, and millions more are fighting to get through a grueling economic recession.

After the first Labor Day occurred in New York City, celebrations spread to other states as workers fought to win better working conditions and wages at a time when they had little power. Today, we stand by those who fought for their rights, because they fought for us; our families and our children. And we are united in our resolve to preserve the American Dream and to ensure the continuing validity of the promise that anyone willing to work hard and play by the rules can make it in America.

But to Democrats, "Make It In America" isn't just a dream—but a plan to help make dreams come true. It's a plan to create jobs and restore economic growth by promoting an encouraging environment for businesses to innovate and make products here in the United States.

While we are still waiting on Republicans to put forward a true, comprehensive jobs plan, we stand ready to revitalize American industries and innovation and help to put more Americans back to work. I urge my colleagues to stand with me and support this plan to create well-paying, middle class jobs and help ensure more families can make it in America.

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